

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5091

S E C R E T TEHRAN 0293

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O.11652: XGDS-3

TAGS:OGEN

SUBJ: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AFFAIR

1. HAVE JUST RECEIVED INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE EDITION WHICH CONTAINS BOB WOODWARD'S WASHINGTON POST STORY ON THE FAIRFAX BREAK-IN. IN VERSION I HAVE, FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH APPEARS: QUOTE IN A CALL LAST WEEK TO A SENIOR WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL, MR. HELMS SOUGHT INFORMATION ABOUT THE BREAK-IN CASE AND PAINTED A GLOOMY PICTURE OF HIS FUTURE UNQUOTE. I MADE NO RPT NO CALLS LAST WEEK TO A SENIOR WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL. THE ONLY COMMUNICATIONS I HAVE HAD WITH THE WHITE HOUSE WERE THE THREE MESSAGES WHICH I SENT TO BRENT SCOWCROFT AND WHICH I ASSUME YOU HAVE SEEN SINCE I ASKED HIM TO SHARE THEM WITH YOU. (I THOUGHT THESE MESSAGES WERE PRIVATE.) NOWHERE HAVE I PAINTED A "GLOOMY PICTURE" OF MY FUTURE. THE ONLY OTHER CALLS I HAVE MADE HAVE BEEN TO A FRIEND IN WASHINGTON WHO IS HELPING ME TO IDENTIFY A LAWYER WHOM I CAN RETAIN TO REPRESENT ME IN THIS AFFAIR. INCIDENTALLY, AFTER READING THE WOODWARD STORY, IT CAN ONLY HAVE COME FROM STANLEY POTTINGER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. HE DOES NOT PERMIT HIMSELF TO BE IDENTIFIED, HOWEVER.

2. AS LARRY EAGLEBURGER HAS UNDOUBTEDLY TOLD YOU, MY CURRENT TRAVEL PLANS ARE TO LEAVE HERE ON JANUARY 25 FOR HEARINGS BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES ON JANUARY 27 AND JANUARY 30.

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I WOULD NOT RPT NOT LIKE TO BE OBLIGED TO DEPART PRIOR

TO JANUARY 25. I AM SCHEDULED TO GIVE A LUNCHEON NEXT WEEK FOR THE IRAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND ON JANUARY 21 I HAVE COMMITTED MYSELF TO GIVE A DINNER IN HONOR OF THE PRIME MINISTER WITH MINISTERS ANSARY AND AMOUZEGAR ALSO PRESENT. INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED. GIVEN THE CURRENT STATE OF IRAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS, I HOPE IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO CANCEL THIS DINNER AND SKULK OUT OF TOWN BEFOREHAND. IN ADDITION, MY SON AND HIS WIFE ARRIVE EARLY NEXT WEEK FOR THEIR FIRST VISIT HERE AND I WOULD OBVIOUSLY ENJOY BEING IN TEHRAN FOR AT LEAST A BIT OF IT. WOULD DEEPLY APPRECIATE ANY HELP YOU CAN GIVE ME IF FOR SOME REASON DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SHOULD PRESS FOR EARLIER DEPARTURE.

3. I DIRECTED MY THREE CABLES ON THIS DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AFFAIR TO SCOWCROFT SO THAT I WOULD NOT BE BURDENING OR EMBROILING YOU DIRECTLY IN THE MATTER. IF THIS IS NOT THE WAY YOU WANT IT, PLEASE ADVISE.

4. WARM REGARDS.
HELMS

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NNN

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